

Message Text

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ACTION ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15

SAM-01 OES-05 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 CEQ-01 EPA-04

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SUBJ: BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON FOREIGN ENERGY PROGRAMS

REF: 75 STATE 289786

1. WE ARE FACED WITH A GENERAL PAUCITY OF INFORMATION ON QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL. ALTHOUGH ENERGY IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AS WELL AS ELSEWHERE, IS MAJOR TOPIC OF CONCERN, PUBLISHED MATERIALS ON NATION'S R&D EFFORTS IN THIS SPHERE ARE HARD TO COME BY. WE WILL NEVERTHELESS ATTEMPT RESPOND TO QUESTIONS RAISED REFTEL TO BEST OF OUR ABILITY.

2. CONCERNING ITEM 1-B IN REFTEL, IT APPEARS THAT CZECHO-SLOVAK PRIMARY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS FOR ENERGY PRODUCTION ARE IN NUCLEAR FIELD. THIS EMPHASIS ON NUCLEAR POWER DOES NOT SEEM TO BE A RECENT CHANGE SINCE CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND THE SOVIET UNION HAVE BEEN COOPERATING IN RESEARCH TO UTILIZE NUCLEAR POWER FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA SINCE 1955. AT THAT TIME USSR SUPPLIED CZECHOSLOVAKIA WITH ITS FIRST NUCLEAR REACTOR, PROVIDED SPECIALISTS TO RUN IT AND TRAINED CZECHOSLOVAK ENGINEERS IN ITS OPERATION, AS WELL.

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3. RECENTLY, THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF CZECHOSLOVAK

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION, INGM. KAREL BARABAS, WROTE ARTICLE IN MONTHLY PUBLICATION, "CZECHOSLOVAK FOREIGN TRADE 11/75", IN WHICH HE STATED THAT CZECHOSLOVAK PRIME RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EFFORT IN AREA OF NUCLEAR POWER IS DIRECTED TOWARD MASTERING PROTOTYPE OF FAST BREEDER REACTOR WITH HIGH UNIT CAPACITY. BARABAS SAID, NOT SURPRISINGLY, THAT ALL CZECHOSLOVAK EFFORTS ARE CONTINGENT ON INTEGRATION WITH SCIENTIFIC, RESEARCH AND INDUSTRIAL BASE OF USSR. THIS IS LARGELY BEING ACCOMPLISHED, ACCORDING TO AUTHOR, THROUGH MOSCOW-BASED CEMA ASSOCIATION, INTERATOMENERGO, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE GROWTH OF NUCLEAR POWER INDUSTRY IN CEMA COUNTRIES. BARABAS PREDICTED THAT BY YEAR 2000 NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS WILL ACCOUNT FOR ROUGHLY 50 PERCENT OF ALL INSTALLED ELECTRICAL GENERATING CAPACITY, NOT ONLY IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA, BUT WORLD-WIDE.

4. WE WILL RESPOND TO REMAINING QUESTIONS IN REFTTEL BY JANUARY 30 AND WE HOPE BEFORE THEN TO HAVE HAD SOME OF THEM ANSWERED BY HUMAN SOURCES. PERRY

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